



**City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Children and Youth
Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2018**

Commissioners Present: Shawna Meyer-Niederman, Donna Bernens-Kinhead, Matt Hanauer, Allen Bell, and Julie Warren

Regrets: Georg'ann Cattelona, Isadore Torry, and Fiora Pizzo

CSCY: Staff Liaison – Nancy Woolery

Guests

- Madeleine Allard – League of Women Voters
- Brittni King- MPH Student
- Sylvie Choiniere, CFRD Health Projects Intern
- Sean Starowitz-City of Bloomington Economic and Sustainable Development
- Rachel Glago – Cardinal Stage Company
- Jane St. John-City of Bloomington Economic and Sustainable Development

Welcome & Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order by Shawna Meyer-Niederman at 5:35 pm.

Guest Speakers:

- **Jane St. John-Child Care Funding in the City Budget**
 - She is currently doing consulting work under the Wage and Task Force for: bike share, food hubs, and pre-k related issues (from birth on).
 - Pre-K/Day care is tremendously expensive and there needs to be more done for the readiness of children entering kindergarten. Jane mentioned the grades reported out of Fairview and what can be done by the city to address that?
 - She has looked into the City having its own day care and subsidizing cost of childcare with Human Resources. She has also met with Office of Sustainability Human Resources to look into the cost of a child day care facility for the city. The issue continues to be the finances/ high cost. She is continuing to work on this and she hopes to create a domino effect in which day cares are built and sustained in downtown areas. There are 106 children among city employees and if each retail space used their first floor as a day care space, it would be a great help. Therefore, she is working to plant seeds with commercial realtors to help them keep in mind space for childcare areas.

- The city also has \$100,000 to use, but that is a small amount in relation to childcare. Money was used from elsewhere to purchase billboards for On-my Way Pre-K there were only 6 families that signed up for it.
- Jane is continuing to look into/research the Family Scholar House – Louisville, KY program to see if that is a possibility for Bloomington. This organization helps people enroll into school and partner with Section 8 housing (tax credit), Pell Grants, and various scholarships. The way to get into housing is by earning credits (Merit based) by taking classes related to nutrition, cooking, reading to toddlers, etc. Once in the facility, there is daycare for children and support for the single parents. There are 230 families, 12 full time employees, 1900 volunteers, etc. Reports show that 73% of residences after graduation are completely off of public assistance. Conversations have been ongoing with several individuals regarding this and childcare facilities in Bloomington.
- After talking with the FSSA – Family Social Services Administration, a large issue with increasing the amount of childcare facilities is that there is a small portion of qualified people to work in the preschools. How do we get people in schools to get qualified?
- Universal childcare may not happen until private companies decide to do this. It will take people to be an exemplar of this.
- Questions: Could there be potential for tax credits for commercial areas to have a daycare facility? How can you leverage that for already built facilities?
- Objective – Examining options available and creating more places that will open and have a childcare facility.
- What can the commission do? Once there is something, we will know and build on that! Conducting research and helping with anything
- **Jane's email - janestjohn725@gmail.com**
- **Sean Starowitz-City of Bloomington Economic and Sustainable Development – Art Director**
 - Introduced Rachel Galgo who is working to bring in Richard Ross who will be conducting a Juvenile and Justice Series. Richard Ross is a professional professor working on several projects in the juvenile system and this has evolved into an interdisciplinary field. He took images of individuals impacted by the juvenile system and he is taking those images/stories to help influence policies. He focuses on solidarity confinement and how that impacts children. He also did a video project doing a 24-hour stay in a juvenile system to identify the repercussions. He also visited various systems to compare them. Bloomington does not have a juvenile service and children are still being sentenced so there is a greater separation of children and families.
 - The exhibit presented in City Hall has been displayed on Capitol Hill, Harvard, etc. April 5th-6th Richard will be here to discuss project and policy influence on IU campus. First Thursday, and City Hall on Thursday Evening to have the exhibition in the Atrium. There will be a luncheon to discuss information with key players in the community. There will be a workshop in Ivy Tech to learn how to approach something like this. A Juvie Talk will take place with the Ivy Tech student production. There will also be auxiliary programming throughout the month of April with Rhinos Youth Center to encourage participation. Rachel is

hoping to plan a panel to talk with more elected officials and people working on this in the county. Lecture, exhibition, performances and luncheon will be open to the public. There is going to be “You Are Here” Billboard production from Richard Ross.

- Schedule of Events:
 - Thursday, April 5
 - 4PM Lecture, Woodburn Hall Rm 100, Indiana University
 - 5:30PM First Thursday, Arts Plaza at Showalter Fountain, Indiana University
 - 7:30PM Exhibition Opening, City Hall Showers Building Atrium
 - Friday, April 6
 - 10AM Masterclass with Adv. Photography/Journalism Students, IU Media School, Indiana University
 - 12PM Lunch with the Richard Ross, City Hall Showers Building Atrium
 - 4PM Workshop: Photos of People and Telling Stories, Ivy Tech Center for Lifelong Learning
 - 5:30PM Juvie Talk Performance, Ivy Tech John Waldron Arts Center, Rose Firebay
 - Friday, April 13
 - 4PM Zine Making, Rhino’s Youth Center & Monster House Press
 - What can the commission do to promote this: PROMOTE! and contact Rachel with ideas for auxiliary programming. There is also an opportunity for the Commission to have a table at the Luncheon.
 - **Rachel Glago – rglago@comcast.net**

Approval of January 16, 2018 Minutes

- Julie motioned and Matt seconded, unanimously approved

City Staff Liaison Report:

- MCCSC Curriculum Restoration – There is a meeting on Monday, February 26th, 2018 regarding the curriculum and how culturally insensitive this is. Things are adopted quickly and not tailored or discussed. The curriculum is set to be reviewed, but the meeting will discuss the review process.
- Phil Stafford who works with the elderly population and is hosting a Lifetime Community Workshop. In order to provide residents with background on the concept of a Lifetime Community, and in preparation for upcoming local discussions about the Comprehensive Master Plan and related redevelopment opportunities, the City’s Commission on Aging is holding a free public workshop at City Hall in Council Chambers on Friday, March 9. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and the workshop is from 10:00 a.m. until noon. Guest speakers include Zach Benedict, a Fort Wayne architect who has helped pioneer the Lifetime Community concept nationally, and Phil Stafford, recently retired Director of the former Indiana University Center on Aging and Community and a member of the Bloomington Commission on Aging.
- Annual Report completed by Julie and Nancy. It is currently being looked over by Beverly.
- Sustainability Action Plan – There is Open House that will take place on February 21st.

- Send out a letter thanking all the youth serving organizations

CDBG (Community Development Block Grants) Committee Updates

- Take this off from the agenda

Multi-Commission Bicentennial Project Update

- It is going well! There is an active committee with people from other commissions. They will be applying for the Bicentennial Endorsement soon for the Art History Project. There is collaboration between museums, organizations, library etc. Julie is working on the guidelines and will be sending that out soon. This History Center has asked for help with funding for the exhibit and maybe the commission can get money for supplies for that some children may not have access to. If supplies are purchased, they can be placed in accessible areas including City Hall, Library, History Center etc. The funds could be obtained through BTCC's seed money (a budget will need to be created to obtain). There are also arts grants that might be applicable.

Committee Reports

- During the next meeting, people can decide on committee they want to be in and reconfigure. (Think about which committee you want to be on and what you want to do? Bring ideas.)

BTCC Update:

- The next NPA Advocacy Breakfast is Wednesday, February 21, 8-9 am at The Village Deli.
- The Community Quarterly Gathering is the same day; registration has closed for that event. It is a collaboration between Indiana Youth Institute and BTCC.
- The Racial Equity Training series is in process; we've had the first of the three workshops. There are 55 people who have committed to attending all three workshops. The final one is a "train of trainers". Two of our Commissioners are participating in the full series: Allen Bell and Georg'ann Cattelona.

Adjournment:

- **Matt motioned, Julie second, unanimously approved.**

Next Meeting-March 20, 2018